Lima, Melissa

Period: 5

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AP English Language

The Crucible: Anticipation/Reaction Guide

7. Courage means doing something even though it can be difficult and fearsome.

Courage is to find strength in the face of pain or grief, to forget the consequences and focus on the successes. For example, everyday there is a kid out there who will stand up to a bully, because he knows that he can't keep taking the threats and punches from the kid just because he is bigger. And on that same day, a soldier will be on the frontlines, risking his life for his country. Both of these are acts of courage, because both may be difficult, but the two people carry out the act anyways. Part of courage is letting go of the fear that haunts you, blocking it out and filling your mind with optimism. You must have courage to do things such as speak in front of large crowds, compete in a sport, or even go walk into a dark room, that is if darkness is one of your fears. Courage can also help you through hard times to stay strong and be hopeful and keep a positive attitude for what ever it is that you are struggling with. Having courage will grant you the ability to stay strong for not only yourself but also others around you that might be struggling too. Courage might save a life, including your own. One thing I am scared of is cockroaches, maybe if I were to become courageous and get over my fear of cockroaches and not screaming every time I saw one, I would become just a little bit stronger of a person, due to the fact that I would overcome one of my fears. Also, half of the foods I say I hate I have never even tried, I might even love them but I just do not know because I do not have the courage to try them. If people were not courageous then things would be much different than how they are now. There would be no policemen and women to keep our cities and towns safe, no firefighters to save the lives of men, women and children in fire, no doctors to keep us healthy and living a normal life, and certainly no men and women in the army to fight for our country’s freedom. If there were no courage then we would all just be living in fear our entire lives, scared of everything and skeptical of what is to come. Having a lack of courage is a flaw and it is something most people work on. There are people who are born with courage and it comes naturally to them but others are more shy and reserved, they do not like stepping out of their comfort zone which is why they have to work a little harder in order to get courage. Being courageous also means to do things that others are scared to do, this varies from wearing a bedazzled skirt to standing up for yourself when someone hurts you physically or mentally. Courage does mean doing something even though it can be difficult or fearsome.